

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

December 10, 2010 to January 7, 2011

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal regulatory permitting action to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Norfolk District, proposes to make revisions and reissue Regional Permit 5 (RP-5) for the construction of small impoundments. RP-5 authorizes the construction of small impoundments for uses such as general farm use, irrigation, livestock watering, fire prevention, and recreation in non-tidal waters of the U.S. in certain waters of the U.S., provided they have only a minimal environmental impact. The revisions include: (1) elimination of the non-reporting component for the construction of impoundments impacting no more than 1/10 acre of non-tidal waters of the U.S. and no more than 300 linear feet of streambed; and (2) the requirement to notify and receive written approval prior to initiating construction for all impoundments that impact by filling, flooding, draining, or clearing no more than 1/2 acre of non-tidal waters, including wetlands, open-waters (e.g. lakes, ponds, and other non-linear systems), and no more than 1,500 linear feet of streambed (as measured upstream from the downstream edge of the impoundment structure). The construction of impoundments with impacts exceeding 1/2 acre of non-tidal wetlands and/or 1,500 LF of streambed will require an individual Corps permit or State Programmatic General Permit (07-SPGP-01) and will not be authorized by this regional permit. The Corps seeks the Commonwealth's concurrence that the proposed action consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

NAME; John E. Fisher
DEQ Central Office
Office of Environmental Impact Review
629 East Main Street, Room 633
Richmond, Virginia, 23219;

Phone: (804) 698-4339
Fax: (804) 698-4319
E-mail: john.fisher@deq.virginia.gov